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claiming it to be the word of God, "slaves obey your masters," is a worse man than the slave owner who with whip in hand says to his slave, damn you, do as I tell you.

But to return to your particular case. I will here say that there will be built in this section a respectable monument to the memory of "Old John Brown," the great slavery agitator, "Old Brown," of Kansas, "Osawatamie Brown," and in after years your name will be coupled with those that have been amongst the foremost in all great reforms.—Stephen *Arnold* Douglas is also a great Slavery agitator but for an entirely different purpose, and his name is becoming even now a byword and a reproach and is contemptuously coupled with Benedict Arnold and ought to be treated by all highminded men as the Earl of Balcarras treated that traitor.—Decatur is lauded to the highest degree for liberating a few slaves at Tripoli and making them renounce their system of slavery, while James Buchanan is considered worse than a bandit chieftain for his attempt to extend the bounds of slavery into Kansas—and many there are who wish that John Brown and James Buchanan had to change places. The Harpers Ferry affair is strengthening the Republican party very materially. With a strong sympathy for the cause of freedom every where, I subscribe myself,

Yours truly,

A. J. SNOW.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

SOME COLONIAL LETTERS.

This Society has been recently presented with copies of several letters between members of the Carter and Byrd families and some of their friends. The originals of these were among the large and valuable collection of family papers at "Oakland," Cumberland county, the old seat of the Cocke family, and were probably destroyed in the fire which consumed that old house.

Unfortunately some of the sheets of these copies were lost before they were given to the Society; but as family letters of

the colonial period of Virginia, especially between ladies, are so rare, it has been thought desirable to print them, even with the omissions.

Charles Carter, of "Cleve," King George county, was married three times. One of his wives, Anne, to whom he was married in 1741, was daughter of Colonel Wm. Byrd, 2d, of "Westover." One of the daughters of Charles Carter, Judith, married Wm. Burnett Browne, of Salem, Mass., and afterwards of "El-sing Green," King William county, Va. It is probable that "Molly" Carter was visiting her sister in New England at the time the correspondence begins.

* MRS. MARIA BEVERLEY (?) TO MARIA CARTER.

[The beginning of this letter is missing.]

"Rebecca Burwell † is soon to render Mr. Jacqueline Ambler the happiest of Mortals, that Miss Fanny Burwell, ‡ of York, proposes to Grace Rosewell by wedding Mr. John Page, and that Miss Fairfax § will shortly wed Mr. Warner Washington, of Gloucester,"—adding with regard to this marriage: "What think you my Molly, of 45 for 21? Does it strike you as altogether Suitable? But can you hear of so Vast many of our

* Maria, daughter of Landon Carter, of "Sabine Hall," married Robert Beverley, of "Blandfield."

† Rebecca, daughter of Hon. Lewis Burwell, Governor of Virginia, was born May 29, 1746, and married May 24, 1764, Jacqueline Ambler, afterwards treasurer of the State of Virginia. Rebecca Burwell was the "Belinda" of Jefferson's college days. Her daughter, Mary Ambler, was the wife of Chief Justice Marshall.

‡ Frances, daughter of Hon. Robert Carter Burwell, of Isle of Wight county, member of the Council, married John Page, Governor of Virginia.

§ Hannah, youngest daughter of William Fairfax, of "Belvoir," married (his second wife), Warner Washington, of Gloucester, and afterwards of Frederick county, where he died in 1791. He was son of John Washington, of "Highgate," Gloucester.

Sex about to change their Estate without enlisting yourself in their Number? I cannot believe the young Gentlemen of New England are so Vastly depraved in their way of Thinking as not to have made you many Applications of that Sort. They must by such an omission impeach themselves, they cannot be blest with any great Degree of Penetration to let so many Charms rest unobserved. But why do I run on at this Rate? I remember your Grandmama told me you had a great Variety of Suitors. I should be sorry to hear you had accepted any of their Offers, because by that means I should be deprived of any Prospect of having you near me again.

“Your aff,”

COUSIN BEVERLEY.

CHARLES CARTER TO MARIA CARTER.

Virginia, January 25, 1764.

My Dear Molly:

I must Acknowledge the favor of your many Letters which my Illness has prevented my Aswering. I love to receive them from you, but I wish they were a little better wrote, which would add much to the Satisfaction. I intend, if I can persuade Whitman to take it so far, to send Ten Barrels of Corn to the care of Mr. Pearce, to raise you some Pocket money. Have you any Wants? I hope my Molly will put a deaf ear to the flattering Speeches of the World, and remember that one hour's Sickness may deprive her of every beauty a Giddy, foolish woman can boast of. I wish you had wrote me how the Lobsters and Salmon agreed with you, as you took care to eat them all, & did not indulge us with a Taste of either.

You will see from your Sister's Letter, which will save me the trouble of adding more, that I am on the recovery, and that all the rest of your Relations, as far as I Know, are in good Health.

Pray God Bless my Dear Child, & keep her from all danger of every Kind & sort.

I am your most Affec. Father,

CHARLES CARTER.

MRS. MARIA BYRD* TO MARIA CARTER.

December the 24th, 1763.

My Dear Molly:

When your Uncle Byrd return'd from the Oyer & Terminer Court on Saturday, he deliver'd me your last Epistle, which brought Joy & Gladness to my Heart, as I have a true & sincere Affection for my beloved namesake. Your cousin Beverley has been so extremely Ill that no one imagined for 17 Days that she could recover, but last week I heard she had been two or three times to take the Air.

I am Impatient to see her, yet cannot venture to take so long a Journey till the Spring. I have heard your Father should say he was to have you home next Summer, the very thought of which affords me a pleasing Satisfaction. And in all probability you will meet with your Uncle & Aunt Byrd, as you travel home, either at New York or in Philadelphia, as about that time they propose to make a Tour to the North, & I'll assure you, if it so happen, it would give great pleasure to Them. I have taken an abundance of Phisick since I last saw you, but I thank God I am well enough at this time to give you under my handwriting, that I am my Dear Molly's

Most Affectionate Grandmother,

MARIA BYRD.

 WILLIAM BYRD† TO MARIA CARTER.

My Dear Niece:

I was in great hopes, as well as your Aunt & Grandmama, that you would have given us the Pleasure of your Company at Westover e'er now, & I should have rejoiced in an Opportunity of convincing you of my Affection. Report informs us that you are going to be Married very soon; I wish it had been agreeable to you to have given some of your Friends here Notice of it,

* Mrs. Maria (Taylor) Byrd, widow of William Byrd, 2d, and grandmother of Maria Carter.

† Colonel William Byrd, 3d, of Westover. See this Magazine, IX, 80-88.

because we think ourselves interested in your Happiness; for my part, I shall always be glad to contribute to it. Mr. Armistead is a young Gentleman entirely acceptable to us, & we sincerely wish you both every Blessing of the married State. Be pleased my Dear Molly, to present my very best Compliments to him, & accept yourself of our Love & tender Friendship. I & the rest of your Relations here beg the Favour of you and Mr. Armistead to spend your Christmass at Westover, where many young People are to make merry. give our Love to your Sisters, & bring them with you. Our Coach shall attend you anywhere at any time. I ever am, My Dear Niece,

Your Most Affec. Uncle,

WILLIAM BYRD.

Westover, Nov. 25, 1765.

TO MARIA CARTER.

*“On examining the date of my Dear Friend’s Letter that she was so obliging as to write me, I am ashamed to think how long a time has expired since I received it. Will you, my Dear Friend, forgive me for not acknowledging it before? I trust you will, & as a confession of a fault is the first step to Amendment, I hope to convince her how thoroughly sensible I am of mine, by the readiness with which I shall answer any future Letters she may honour me with. You tell me in yours of your diverting little girls. How happy should I be to see them as well as their Parents, but that’s a happiness which unpropitious fate denys me; I dare say, if I Knew Mr. Armistead I should soon find other reasons to esteem him than barely his being the Husband of my friend Maria. When you favour me with a Letter, which I hope will not be long, you can oblige me by letting me know how you like Lord Dunmore in Virginia. We are extremely well satisfied with *Governor Tryon* here. Mrs. Tryon is a very sensible Woman, & indeed what you call a Learned one, & his Secretary Coll. Fanning is a very amiable Man. he says he is a near Relation of Coll. Byrd, but of that you will be better

[Part of this letter is missing.]

* This letter was from a northern school friend who may be the ancestor of some who read it.

MRS. FIELDE* TO MRS. MARIA (CARTER) ARMISTEAD.†

My Dear Madam:

Your Servant is just arrived with the Chair, for which I am much obliged, but am still more obliged by that Friendly and agreeable Entertainment I met with at Hesse, w^h I wish it may ever be in my power to return. I enclose the Receipts you Desir'd, a thimble to Miss Jenny, w^h is the smallest I have, & a pair of Mitts that I hope will fit one of the little Ladies. My Comp^{ts} attend Mr. Armistead and your young Family, particularly I beg to be remember'd to my *good little friend* Mast^r Billy.

I am Dear Mad^m with an unfeigned esteem,

Your Most Affectionate,

E. FIELDE.

The Glebe, May 24th, 1774.

MRS. FEILDE TO MRS. ARMISTEAD.

[Part of this letter is missing.]

"I cannot Express to you the concern it gave me to hear you were about to remove from your Home. Alas the Deluge of Calamities that have fallen on this unhappy Country; the Prospect is dreadful. Families flying from their Habitations, & what is still worse, Slaughter & Death to close up the rear. Oh Shocking, oh Horrible! But I cannot possibly believe that either the Governor or the Government *intend* to destroy the Country or distress the People in this Manner. You mention your having Prisoners which I did not Know of before. I un-

* Rev. Thomas Fielde or Field, who is believed to have been an Englishman, was chosen minister of Kingston parish, Gloucester, in 1770. He appears to have sided with England during the Revolution and removed to New York.

† As has been stated Maria Carter married Wm. Armistead of "Hesse," Kingston parish, Gloucester county. They had issue: (1) Mary Ann, married Thomas Byrd (the Mr. Byrd referred to in Lucy Armistead's letter); (2) Lucy, married — Harvey; (3) Jane, married William Cocke of "Oakland;" (4) William B., *d. s. p.*; (5) Ann Cleves, married John P. Pleasants of Baltimore; (6) Judith Carter, married Richard H. Moale of Baltimore; (7) Charles Carter, *d. s. p.*; (8) Sarah, married Fairfax Washington; (9) Eleanor B., married Wm. McMecham of Baltimore.

derstand they were Officers. One of them Dying in your house must have occasioned great trouble in your Family, & also a great Fatigue upon your Spirits. I think this Western World is now actually turn'd up side down, & that we shall none of us know whether we stand on our Heads or our Heels, but I hope after we have been well jolted, *jambled* & shak'd together, we may by some lucky hit be thrown into our old Places & Stations, that the World will settle into its usual course, and things move in the same order as formerly.

"Accept my constant and Affectionate regard for your Dear self and whatever concerns your Happiness, and be assured I highly prize your Friendship & think myself happy in every Token of regard I have received from you since I came into this Country."

MRS. FEILDE TO MRS. ARMISTEAD.

[Part of this letter is missing.]

New York, Aug. 17, 1779.

Dear Mad^m:

The very few opportunitys we meet with of writing to Virginia makes me gladly embrace the one w^h now occurs of conveying a few lines to inform you that we are well, & to assure you that we constantly entertain the same regard for our Friends at Hesse of whose health & wellfare it will always give us pleasure to hear.

I was much disappointed in not receiving a line from you by Mr. Smith when he came to Elizabeth Town, & we were very sorry a permit could not be obtained for his coming into the City; at ye time his first lett^r was rec^d Mr. Feilde had been confined to his room many days, by a swelling of his Foot, but immediately went (but with difficulty), to make application for that purpose, but as it was refused, he could do nothing further. He afterwards wrote to Mr. Smith by a Flag, w^h brought his last letter. Nothing could exceed our astonishment when he says Mr. Rodolph had informed him we had two of his negroes living with us, w^h is so far from truth, that

LUCY ARMISTEAD TO MRS. MARIA ARMISTEAD.

[Part of this letter is missing.]

reading. Mr. Byrd rides and we work till dinner which comes in at three. When the Weather is fine we generally take a walk, when we return we drink Tea or Coffee. At night we work, while Mr. Byrd reads to us; at nine we go to bed: this is the manner in which we spend our Time when are entirely alone; pray Mama let me Know what you think of it. How much am I obliged to my Dear Mama for inquiring what I was most in need of; I am very well off for everything but Gowns: a few pocket handkerchiefs would not be amiss, though I would not for the world have my Dear Mama put herself to any trouble about them. You say you must insist on my taking more pains with my writing. That will be useless, as you say the Gentlemen have lost the Art of making Pens. I agree with you. I think they have, and when I have a bad pen it is impossible to write well. With duty to my Dear Mama, & love to my Sisters,

I remain your

Dutyful Daughter,

LUCY ARMISTEAD.

P. S. Mammy Amy desires her love, & begs you will save some of the young Ladies old Gowns for her.

PIONEER DAYS IN ALLEGHANY COUNTY.

(By W. A. McALLISTER, Warm Springs, Va.)

The history of Western Virginia has been sadly neglected by every historian with a more than local prominence.

The reasons for this may be partially explained by a glance at the map of Virginia and by a brief review of the past and a glimpse at the present inhabitants of this section. Taking Alleghany as the county specially under consideration, let us examine its location and note its boundary line. Bordered as it is by chains of mountains and interspersed with valleys and ridges